(Qty. in tonnes)
(Value in Rs. lakhs)

Year	Production (Crude Mica)	Export	
		Qty.	Val.
1990-91	3827*	42506	5131.09
1991-92 *	3353*	34880	5547.88
1992-93	N.A.	27741	3834.73

(Source : IBM Nagpur) (Source : DGCI&S)
*Provisional.

Both production and exports of mica have shown a decline after decanalisation. However, this is largely attributable to changes in the global market on account of technolosical obsolescence; product substitution of certain forms of mica; changes in the former Soviet Union and East European countries which were major consumers of sheet mica and due to reces-sionaiy trends in the global economy.

(b) Government is constantly reviewing ali possible avenues of increasing the export cf mica and mica products in the changing global scenario;

BAN ON TOBACCO CULTIVATION AND EXPORTS

2336. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to slate :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to ban tobacco cultivation and tobacco exports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if noi, what were the reaction of Government for anti-tobacco restriction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE I MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DIS- j TRIBUTION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE D4 THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Decs not arise.

(v.) Despite anti-smoking campaign, the demand for tobacco is continuing and is likely to continue for some more years

MMTC'S PROPOSAL FOR JOINT VENTURE FOR EXPORTS

2337. SHRI RAMADAS AGARWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have cleared State owned MMTC's (Minerals and Metal Trading Corporation) proposal for setting up a joint-venture for boosting the exports of marine products;

(b) if So, what are the details thereof, indicating MMTC's right to export, stake in the equity capital, location of project and total investment involved in rupees; in earlier stage and during full production stage; and

(c) wherher Government had earlier approved MMlC's proposal for setting up a joint venture with another private enterprise; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.